



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Arizona Department of Public Safety finds Numerous Violations during Tour Bus Inspections at the Grand Canyon National Park

The Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau along with the National Park Service conducted comprehensive safety inspections of all tour buses and large-passenger vans entering the Grand Canyon National Park at its south entrance from Aug. 22 through Aug. 24.

In total, 130 Buses were inspected, 25 citations were issued, 17 buses were placed out of service for mechanical violations and 17 drivers were placed out of service for driver violations.

Mechanical violations included vehicle brakes and tires. Several drivers were found to be driving excessive hours, having false log books and three did not have a proper driver's license.

The 13.1 percent out-of-service rate for buses during this special-enforcement action along with the 13.1 percent for drivers exceeds the 2006 national rate of 8.7 percent for buses and 3.6 percent for drivers.

"These figures indicate that buses traveling through northern Arizona are mostly safe but there are some carriers that need to improve their performance. DPS intends to pay special attention to commercial carriers of passengers in hopes of drawing better compliance. While this was a successful operation by enforcement standards, it is disappointing that so many violations were found," said Lt. Bernard Gazdzik of the DPS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agencies in the United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.